

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the title stating "The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed."

In response, Applicants have supplied a new title.

The Examiner has stated that claims 3, 7 and 10-12 would be allowable. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Oda et al. (2001/0045604).

Applicants respectfully traverse the §102(b) rejections with the following arguments.

35 USC § 102

Applicants maintain, that the Examiners rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13-16 and 18 is moot in light of Applicants cancellation of claim 1 and amendments of claims 2, 3, 4, 12-16 and 18.

The Examiner indicated claims 3, 7, and 10-12 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response Applicants have amended claim 3 to include the limitations of claim 1. Claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13-16 and 18 have been amended or depend from a claim that has been amended to depend from amended claim 3.

Additionally, withdrawn claims 6, 17 and 19 have been amended or depend from a claim that has been amended to depend from amended claim 3. Applicants consider amended claim 3 to be generic and request that withdrawn claims 6, 17 and 19 be rejoined.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,
FOR:
Anderson et al.

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